

BA 1992

NORRIS HOUSE (SOUTH)

1890-1896

PARKTON

PRIVATE

This house was apparently built by or for Miss Lizzie (Elizabeth) Norris between her purchase of a lot in 1890 and her appearance with two frame dwellings in the 1896 tax ledger. In 1907, Miss Norris left the lower or southern house to her sister Mary M. Norris, naming John Nicholas Norris as remainderman. The house is practically a mirror image of the Norris house to the north, set close to the ground, two stories of frame and clapboard, L-shaped in plan, vernacular in style. There is a full-width front porch with plain posts. Unlike its twin house, the lower Norris House has no shutters along the sides. The rear wing measures 14 by 12 in the 1918 tax list. The main block is one bay deep. The two Norris houses form a plain but pleasant scene in the suburban part of Parkton where the York Road ascends from the river level.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC NORRIS HOUSE (SOUTH)

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

18,902 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Clara A. Norris

Telephone #: 357-8583

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Hunter Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

White Hall

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21161

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: Estate Docket 10

Folio #: 237

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

NONE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Norris House (south) is almost a mirror image of its companion to the north. This house is set but one step closer to the ground than the one to the north. It is a two-story plus attic, frame and clapboard vernacular style structure with double front doors clustered in the center bays. The southern house has front doors with solid paneling, set under rectangular transoms with two window lights each. All other positions at both stories are supplied with large, 2-over-2, double-hung sash windows, all supplied with louvered shutters.

A shed-roofed front porch runs across the full width of the house supported by four square posts, supported in turn by stone piers. The space between the piers is filled in with plywood panels instead of the usual rural latticework panels. The porch railing is of plain square balusters. A section of railing blocks access to the southernmost door. The porch deck is five steps above grade. There is a plain box cornice under the porch roof and recessed posts at the two rear corners of the porch.

The house is L-shaped, its rear wing measuring 14 by 12 in older tax ledgers. The main block is one bay deep and there is only one bay in the rear wing or "L" which runs back as a two-story, gable-roofed extension. In the main block, each gable end has a single window of four large lights.

The rear wing is flush with the south wall of the main block. Most windows along the sides lack louvered shutters, found in its twin.

Roofing material is greenish rubber or asphalt tile. Foundation is stone. There is one central chimney emerging along the ridge line of the main block; there is an inside end-chimney at the far end or gable end of the rear wing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	__ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__ COMMUNITY PLANNING	__ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__ RELIGION	
__ 1400-1499	__ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__ CONSERVATION	__ LAW	__ SCIENCE	
__ 1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	__ ECONOMICS	__ LITERATURE	__ SCULPTURE	
__ 1600-1699	__ ARCHITECTURE	__ EDUCATION	__ MILITARY	__ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
__ 1700-1799	__ ART	__ ENGINEERING	__ MUSIC	__ THEATER	
X 1800-1899	__ COMMERCE	__ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__ PHILOSOPHY	__ TRANSPORTATION	
__ 1900-	__ COMMUNICATIONS	__ INDUSTRY	__ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__ OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		__ INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1890-1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The southern or Lower Norris House was probably built between 1890 and 1896, following the sale of two lots, Lot No. 23 and Lot No. 24, by Eudora V. Emack to Elizabeth E. Norris. (1) These lots had been laid out on the Emack family's share of the once vast Calder-Turner landholdings, the lots running westward from the York Turnpike Road to Calder Avenue, a suburban street laid out in 1877 (2), Miss Norris later (1892) acquired the street-to-street lots immediately to the north. (3) The 1896 tax ledger showed:

Norris, Miss Lizzie, Parkton  
 2 lots on West side of Baltimore & York  
 Turnpike in Village of Parkton @ \$100 each

	\$200
No. 1 Frame Dwelling	600
No. 2 Frame Dwelling	600
	<u>\$1400</u> (4)

In her will of 1907, Miss Norris left the southernmost property in the following terms:

I give and bequeathe unto my sister  
 Mary M. Norris the house and lot at  
 Parkton known as the lower house and  
 at her death to my nephew John Nicholas  
 Norris in fee simple.

The upper house she left directly to the nephew and a third "unimproved" lot went to Mrs. Lillie B. Almony. (5)

The 1911 tax ledger valued the Mary Norris house at \$750, the same assessment placed on its twin structure. (6)

By the time of the next volume of assessments, that of 1918, J. Nicholas Norris was owner of both houses, each of them valued at \$798, and the same dimensions were given for both, to wit:

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(continued)

Dwelling 12 x 14  
16 x 24 2 stories \$798. (7)

On his death in 1940, Mr. Norris' inventory listed "tracts at Parkton" and mentioned a "lower house" which would, of course, imply the continued existence of an upper house. The total improvements were placed at \$7000. (8) This house and its twin to the north (No. 18,904 York Road) remain in the original family, per current tax maps and probate records. (9)

## NOTES:

1. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 178:570.
2. B.C. Deeds, JWS 178:518.
3. B.C. Deeds, LMB 191:533.
4. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1896, Entry #445-95.
5. B.C. Wills, WJP 14:418.
6. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1911, f. 661.
7. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1918, f. 707.
8. Real Inventory, JPC 4:113. Estate #9347.
9. Estate Docket, 10:237.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

NORRIS HOUSE (SOUTH)

Baltimore County Deeds, Orphans' Court Records, Tax Ledgers.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 53.5 perches**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**Part of 4 lots on westside of York Road, running 125 feet to Cal-  
der Avenue; 33-foot road frontage.

(Map 17, P264)

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE NONE

COUNTY NONE

STATE

NONE

COUNTY

NONE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE

May 20, 1980

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

494-3495

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

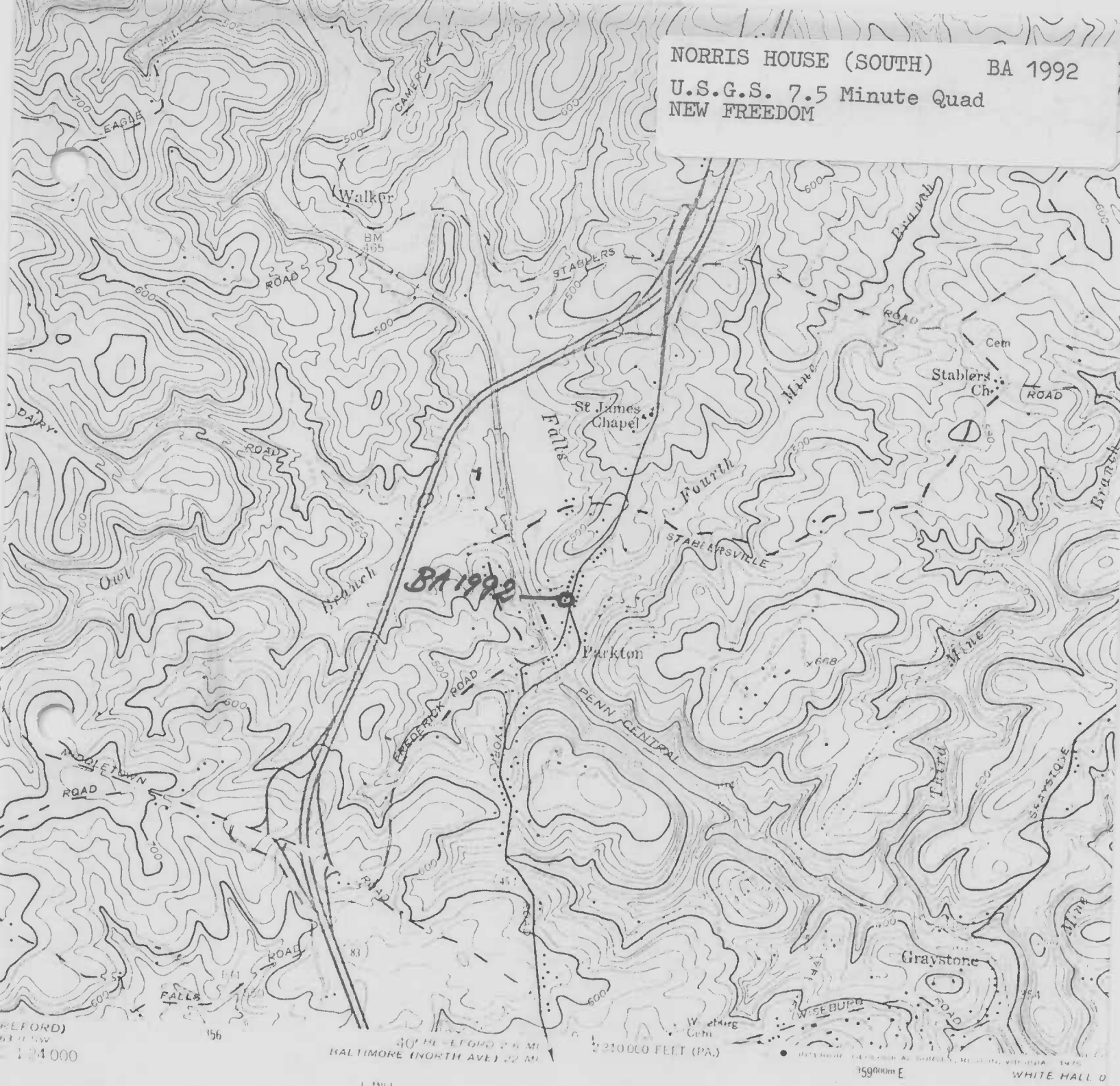
Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

NORRIS HOUSE (SOUTH) BA 1992  
U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quad  
NEW FREEDOM



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy duty ——— Light duty ———  
Medium-duty - - - - - Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
U S Route ( ) State Route ( )

NEW FREEDOM, MI

N3937.5-W7637.5/7

1958  
PHOTOREVISED 1974  
AMS 5663 II NW SERIES





NORRIS HOUSE (SOUTH) BA 1992  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
J. McGrain, March 1980  
Neg. located at MHT  
Main (east) facade from east